

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6, 11-21 are active in this application. Claims 7-10 have been cancelled in view of the finality of the restriction imposed by the Office.

It is noted that the identification of withdrawn claims in item 4(a) of the Office Action Summary and the statement on page 2 indicating claim 5 as being drawn to non-elected subject matter is incorrect. Only Claims 7-10 should be indicated as being drawn to non-elected subject matter in view of the Decision on Applicants Petition withdrawing the restriction as it pertains to Groups I-XI. Thus, Claims 5, 12 and 19-21 should be properly included with the elected subject matter and allowed with the remaining pending claims.

The claims have been amended to clarify the sequences of the peptides to which the antibodies are directed. The antibodies thus are directed to certain peptides and can bind to modified peptides having modifications provided that they have equivalent antigenicity to the specified peptide to which the antibodies are directed. No new matter is added.

The rejection of Claims 1-4, 6, 11 and 13-18 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph is believed to be obviated by the amendments submitted herein. Specifically, the claims have been amended to clarify that the antibodies react specifically to certain peptides while not cross-reacting with others as described on page 19, lines 9-18 of the specification. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is requested.

To the rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph (written description and enablement), it should be noted that the antibodies are directed to specific peptides (having removed reference to those peptides having 80% homology). As the rejections were based on the inclusion of 80% homology and the specification unquestionably describes and enables the antibodies as claimed, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Also, it is noted that in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 14, 2005 and attached to the Official Action, Reference AO had not been initialed as being

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Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2005

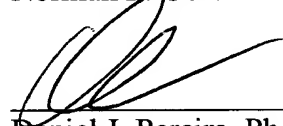
considered. Accordingly, Applicants request a return signed copy of this IDS including the Examiner initials by reference AO (a copy of this IDS filing is attached). Applicants also note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on June 8, 2005 and request a returned signed and initialed copy of the same with the next communication from the Office (a copy of this IDS is attached for reference).

Applicants also request allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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